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A CORRECTION

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In Monograph 47 of the United States Geological Survey, *A Treatise on Metamorphism*, a serious mistake is made in reference to the redistribution of sodium. It is stated on p. 997 that the deficiency of soda in the sediments as compared with the original rocks is 2.4985 per cent., and that this deficiency amounts to 70.38 per cent. of the whole. In estimating the deficiency in metric tons for the soda, the computer, instead of using the amount of soda in the original rocks as the base, took the weight of the entire mass of sediments, and thus the deficiency of soda is given as 475,065,000,000,000,000 metric tons, whereas it should be 16,864,875,000,000,000 metric tons. The total amount of soda in the ocean, 19,101,000,000,000,000 metric tons, instead of being but a small fraction of the total deficiency for the sediments, is 13.2 per cent. in excess of the deficiency.

This error requires the modification of a number of statements made on p. 998. It is there stated that the result obtained suggests that the soda of the salt deposits of the land is probably greater in amount than in the salt of the sea, whereas the true result indicates that the soda of the salt deposits of the land is unimportant as compared with that in the sea. Also a criticism in reference to calculating the age of the earth from the amount of salt in the sea is without force.

No adequate excuse for the error in calculation can be offered; it can only be said that it occurred. In the *Treatise on Metamorphism* there are the results of thousands of numerical calculations. In the one cited a blunder was overlooked. We hope that for the most part the calculations will be found substantially correct.